

Vianney experienced great difficulty as a student studying for the priesthood, but through humility and hard work overcame adversity, eventually becoming a priest and the patron saint of parish priests in the Catholic Church. His days were filled with works of love and charity, he became a ward healer of sorts, and, if you will, a great leader of small democratic institutions.

In fact, I am certain, that had St. John Vianney—no doubt a good Democrat—lived in our time, while studying for the priesthood, he would have worked his way through seminary at the Erie County Board of Elections for Commissioner Ed Mahoney.

A review of Ed's life shows an unparalleled dedication to public service. A decorated veteran of the United States Marine Corps, a Detective Sergeant in the Buffalo Police Department, South District Councilman, Buffalo Recreation Director, membership on the Buffalo Civil Service Commission and 25 years of service as Commissioner of the Erie County Board of Elections. What a record.

Ed served as an active Democratic committeeman for an incredible 54 years, as a city zone leader for 40 years, serving in that capacity with distinction under four Buffalo Mayoral administrations, and serving in other capacities within the administrations of Buffalo's two most recent Mayors, incumbent Mayor Byron W. Brown and the immediate past incumbent, Anthony M. Masiello, both of whom honor Ed with their presence here today. Thank you, Your Honors, for joining us in paying tribute to Ed here this morning.

A proud graduate of South Park High School and Empire State College, Ed Mahoney's life and influence transcended generations, reaching far beyond every conceivable boundary.

Ed loved young people and they loved him. Throughout his career, Ed Mahoney dispensed more patronage and put more young people to work than virtually anyone else.

Kids from South Buffalo's working class families—particularly kids from Seneca Street—would work in the city parks and pools throughout the summer. Ed's influence helped thousands of kids reach their potential and go beyond—helping families pay for school and other expenses that turned their generations into doctors, lawyers, and business leaders that remain active today.

Ed's lifelong friend, retired Assemblyman Dick Keane once speculated that after Mercy Hospital and Sorrento Cheese, Ed Mahoney was the third largest employer in South Buffalo. My father—one of Ed's successors as South District Councilman—would often say publicly that Ed Mahoney helped more young men and women get to and through college than anyone else.

And Ed's willingness to help wasn't confined to kids from South Buffalo. According to his friend, former Erie County Democratic Chairman Joe Crangle, Ed broke the color barrier at the Erie County Board of Elections by hiring its first African American employee—our friend George Campbell. George is here today and he along with dozens of current and former BOE employees join with us to mourn Ed's passing.

Ed Mahoney was many things to many people; a colorful and lively character to be sure. A loving husband to Barbara, Ed was crazy about his kids, his fourteen grandchildren, his brothers and sisters, and many nieces and nephews. But more than anything else, Ed Mahoney was the Commissioner—"The Commish"—always and forever, the Commissioner. This was his public title and what came through his public identity was his great personal qualities, personal qualities that defined the public person. For you see, it wasn't the title of Commissioner that defined Eddie; in reality he would forever define the title.

Our dear friend Assemblyman Mark Schroeder talked often of Ed Mahoney's humility. The word humility is derived from the Latin word, *humilis*, meaning "from the earth." St. Augustine taught us that humility is the foundation of all other human virtues. Ed knew that well.

Dick Keane's statement over the past several days about Eddie's generosity was the shortest and most defining, most revealing. Dick said that "whatever Eddie had, you had half of it." What a testament to friendship, what a testament to love and loyalty, the characteristics that defined Eddie's life.

Dick Keane and Don Kane—spelled "K-A-N-E"—shared a special friendship and bond with Eddie. Don Kane coached Dick and Eddie in the Catholic Youth Council baseball league many years ago.

The scouting report on Eddie was that he could hit the ball but didn't field very well. So, solid coach that Don Kane was, Don put Ed in right field.

Halfway through the game Eddie missed a couple of fly balls. Sensing a problem, Don Kane went out to right field and suggested that Eddie needed to better position himself. He placed a stick on the ground to show Eddie where approximately he should be standing. Well, sure enough, the next inning comes and a fly ball goes out to right. Eddie misses it.

Don Kane goes back out tells Ed that the pop up was a catchable ball and asks, "Why didn't you go after it?" Eddie looked at him and said, "You're the one who told me to stand next to the stick."

Ed Mahoney loved his friends and they loved him. As kids, his social engagement began on Seneca Street and Mineral Springs with Dick Keane, Don Kane, Jack Fahey, Jimmy Morgan and many others.

At DiTondo's with Dick and his son, Judge Kevin Keane, with Dennis Dargavel, Al Roloff, Jack Fahey and his sons Chris and Mike, Johnny Hannon and a variety of special guests like Ray Gallagher, Alan Lewis, and a cast of many others, depending upon the day.

Eddie Mahoney was all about loyalty and friendship. In the Democratic Party, Eddie stated consistently and clearly that he was with the candidate that the Chairman was supporting. The tone and tenor of his voice made the implication clear: that was where he expected you to be as well.

Asked about a hotly contested neighborhood campaign that took place thirty, forty or fifty years ago, Eddie remembered vividly who was with him and who was against him. Eddie he could be forgiving, but he never forgot.

Ed Mahoney was all about loyalty and friendship, but he was a learned man as well. Eddie knew and loved the great Irish poet William Butler Yeats. It was Yeats who wrote that "The lover pleads with his friends for old friends, though you are in your shining days and voices among the crowd and new friends busy with your praise. Be not unkind or proud, but remember old friends the most. For times bitter flood will rise; your beauty perishes and be lost, for all eyes but these eyes."

Alas, Butler Park in South Buffalo—Seneca Street, of course—situated as it is the shadow of the elms bounded by Pawnee and Roanoke Parkways, was not named for Yeats but was instead named for the family who owned the Buffalo News. But Eddie Mahoney had many friends, and kept the old ones from that historic neighborhood particularly close. Pat and Don Kane, Dick and Mary Keane, Dick and Nancy Kreiger, Jack and Mickey Fahey, and many, many others.

Ed's life was not without tragedy and loss, as we all know. Ed and Clare, the loving and devoted mother of his six children, Debbie,

Michael, Timothy, Mary Jo, Kevin and Eileen, suffered the staggering loss of two of their boys, each killed during their teenaged years. That Eddie is now reunited at long last with his sons, Michael and Timmy allows us to accept our loss of him just a bit easier.

As I said, Ed Mahoney was a learned man, and as a good Democrat he had a particular fondness for Robert Kennedy. Eddie campaigned for Bobby Kennedy when he ran for the Senate and for President. They shared a love of politics and they shared the loss of those they each loved dearly.

Triumph and tragedy. The scriptures say that your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. And where there is no vision, life shall perish from the earth.

One of Kennedy's favorite poets—the Greek tragic poet Aeschylus, reminded us that God's law commands that he who learns must suffer. And even in our sleep, pain that cannot forget falls drop by drop upon the heart, and in our own despair, against our will, comes wisdom to us by the awful grace of God.

Ed Mahoney knew deep pain and boundless joy. He gave and received joy from family, friends and fellow patriots who loved their community and their country. Rest in peace, Commish. Your work on earth is done but your life and the lessons you taught us will live on.

ROFEH INTERNATIONAL—NEW ENGLAND CHASSIDIC CENTER ANNUAL DINNER

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, for many years I have had the honor of sharing with our colleagues information about a very important event not just in greater Boston, but from a national perspective. It is the annual dinner of ROFEH International—New England Chassidic Center. Under the leadership of Grand Rabbi Levi Y. Horowitz of the New England Chassidic Center, ROFEH International does extraordinarily important work in the medical field. Rabbi Horowitz is himself a distinguished authority on medical ethics, and plays an important role in helping medical professionals in Boston deal with the ethical issues that modern science encounters. Project ROFEH also plays a very important role in helping provide access to the medical care that is available in Boston to people around the world.

Annually, under the leadership of Rabbi Horowitz, these organizations have a dinner in which leading citizens who have contributed to the work that they do are honored. Without exception they are men and women of great distinction and generosity. This year the awardees are Dr. Kenneth C. Anderson, who receives the ROFEH International Distinguished Service Award, and Keevin Geller, who receives the Man of the Year Award.

Madam Speaker, I was pleased to receive biographies of these two distinguished leaders and I ask that they be printed here along with my congratulations to the people who do the important work of ROFEH International and the New England Chassidic Center, under Rabbi Horowitz's leadership.

KENNETH C. ANDERSON, MD "ROFEH INTERNATIONAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD"

Dr. Anderson graduated from Johns Hopkins Medical School, trained in internal medicine at John's Hopkins Hospital, and completed hematology, medical oncology, and tumor immunology training at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. He is the Kraft Family Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School; and serves as Chief of the Division of Hematologic Neoplasia, Director of the Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center, and Vice Chair of the Joint Program in Transfusion Medicine at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

He serves as chair of the NCCN Multiple Myeloma Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee; as a Cancer and Leukemia Group B Principal Investigator; on the Board of Scientific Advisors of the International Myeloma Foundation; on the Board of Directors and Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation; as well as on the Board of Directors and Chair of the Leadership Committee of the Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium. He is a Doris Duke Distinguished Clinical Research Scientist and has had long term RO-1, PO-1, and SPORE NIH funding.

His numerous awards including the 2001 Charles C. Lund Award of the American Red Cross Blood Services, the 2003 Waldenstrom's award for research in plasma cell dyscrasias, the 2004 Johnson & Johnson Focused Giving Award for Setting New Directions in Science and Technology, the 2005 Third Annual International Myeloma Foundation Robert A. Kyle Lifetime Achievement Award, and the 2007 Joseph A. Burchenal Award for Clinical Research from the American Association for Cancer Research. His paradigm for identifying and validating targets in the myeloma cell and its bone marrow milieu has already provided novel therapies, and offers great promise to improve patient outcome in hematologic malignancies and solid tumors as well.

KEEVIN GELLER, ROFEH INTERNATIONAL NEW ENGLAND CHASSIDIC CENTER MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Keevin Geller, has been proud to call the Bostoner Rebbe, his friend for over thirty years. Mr. Geller is the owner of Barney and Carey Lumber Company since 1978.

In addition to his lumber business, Keevin is a real estate developer and owner. He was one of the first property owners to convert a Back Bay townhouse into condominiums, and went on to complete over twenty-five such projects there and on Beacon Hill. He built and restored many homes in Milton, also creating that town's first condominium complex in the buildings of a former estate. A serious conservationist, he has specialized in the redevelopment of existing structures, while protecting the surrounding land. He was honored with the Commonwealth Award for land preservation.

Keevin was one of the founding members of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. He is a thirty-year member of the Hundred Club, and a life member of many conservation organizations. He is a graduate of Boston University, with a major in Latin. His wife, Cynthia, also a BU alumna, is the granddaughter of the late Max Oransky, one of the Rebbe's father's Chassidim. Cynthia and Keevin reside in Sharon, Massachusetts, where he serves on various town committees.

COMMENDING THE KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD FOR ITS SERVICE TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY AND THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer a House concurrent resolution commending the First Battalion, 149th Infantry of the Kentucky Army National Guard for service overseas in defense of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the citizens of the United States.

The First Battalion, 149th Infantry, known as the "Mountain Warriors," recently returned home to eastern Kentucky after completing a 16-month-long tour of duty. While in Iraq, the Mountain Warriors courageously and successfully performed routine and perimeter security missions, mounted combat patrols, and personal security details, among other assignments.

The 149th Infantry lived up to their strong name and tradition with distinguished service and sacrifice and proudly represented our Kentucky mountain heritage. The Mountain Warriors have a long and storied history dating back to the Mexican-American War and they have served our Nation in nearly every major conflict including World War I, World War II, and now our global war on terror. While in harm's way, the Mountain Warriors successfully completed their mission without any loss of life.

This resolution also honors and recognizes the members of the Heavy Equipment Transport Platoon, 2123rd Transportation Company, who recently returned home after completing their tour of duty in Iraq. The 2123rd Transportation Company conducted daily resupply missions including moving tanks, water, heavy equipment, weapons, and guided weapons systems for the United States Army.

Finally, this House concurrent resolution recognizes the members of the Rear Area Operations Command from the Second Battalion, 123rd Armor of the Kentucky Army National Guard. The "Orphan Battalion," now returned to the Commonwealth, performed base operations for coalition forces in Iraq including 110 combat patrols, site hardening and security improvements, and establishment of 11 guard tower and 17 vehicle battle positions at Qayyarah Airfield West.

These men and women have made Kentucky proud, serving honorably and with steadfast resolve, sacrificing time away from loved ones, careers, and their communities. I want to express my deepest gratitude to these men and women for their service to our great country. I also express my thanks to their families who have waited patiently for their loved ones to return home.

HONORING THE GREATER DALLAS HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on the distinction of being named the "National Hispanic Chamber of the Year" by the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

As a six-time recipient of this award, the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has received this honor more than any other Hispanic Chamber in the Nation.

For the past 68 years, the chamber has promoted programs such as the Business Assistance Centers, the Viva Dallas Hispanic Expo, BizFest, and the Stars on the Rise Award & Scholarship Banquet and their newly created External Affairs Department.

I offer my congratulations to the general membership, past and present, along with the current board of directors and staff for this recent achievement. As one of the congressional representatives of the members of this organization, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize them today in the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING MIDDENDORF-KREDELL BRANCH LIBRARY IN O'FALLON, MISSOURI

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Middendorf-Kredell Branch Library in O'Fallon, Missouri, recipient of the 2007 Federal Depository Library of the Year Award.

The Federal Depository Library Program was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has access to its Government's information by disseminating information from all three branches of the Government to over 1,240 libraries nationwide. The depository libraries are responsible for collecting, maintaining and assisting users with no-fee access to the information in an impartial environment with professional assistance.

It is the high level of professionalism demonstrated from staff and the enthusiasm to disseminate information in a user friendly fashion that has rendered the Middendorf-Kredell Branch Library the distinguished title of Federal Depository Library of the Year.

Middendorf-Kredell Branch Library utilizes creativity and innovation in developing various programs. They were one of the first Federal depository libraries to move to an online environment in September 1995 by creating a Government information web site. A standout feature of the web site includes "Uncle Sam for Kids," one of the first of its kind in the Nation to help kids obtain Federal information for school assignments.

We are so thankful for Middendorf-Kredell Branch Library's leadership in creating programs that are emulated throughout the country and are appreciative for the great work